



State of Indiana

Senate

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Committees:
Agriculture & Small Business, R.M.M.
Rules & Legislative Procedure, R.M.M.
Joint Rules
Natural Resources

April 1, 2009

The Honorable Mitch Daniels
Office of the Governor
Statehouse, Room 206
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Re: Branchville Correctional Facility

Dear Governor Daniels:

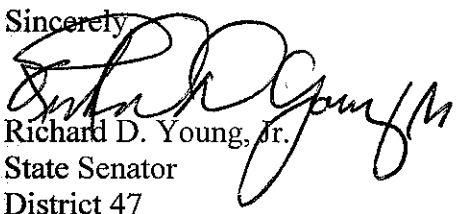
The recent escape of three inmates from the Branchville Correctional Facility has caused great alarm among residents of my district. The three inmates reportedly assaulted a maintenance worker at the facility, escaped through the prison fence and are dangerous.

When I previously raised concerns about the security risk of prisoners located in the Branchville prison, I was assured by state officials that only those appropriate for a medium-security facility would be housed there. If that response was accurate at the time, the policy has either not been maintained or is in need of critical review.

My apprehension then is the same as it is today. If the inmates transferred to the Branchville facility are more aggressive or dangerous than those who can be safely housed there, it could place prison guards, staff and the general public in jeopardy.

For the safety of the residents of Perry County and the surrounding communities, I respectfully request that your administration review the current transfer policies for Indiana's correctional facilities to ensure that inmates are housed in the most appropriate facilities. If it is found that any inmates housed in the Branchville Correctional Facility do not match the proper safety criteria for this prison, they should immediately be transferred to a more secure site.

Sincerely,


Richard D. Young, Jr.
State Senator
District 47